

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY S:AADAMS:ML

APPROVED BY S - MR. EAGLEBURGER

S/S - SRGAMMON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 112898

TOSEC 1157

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: ADDITIONAL TALKING POINTS FOR LEADERSHIP
BRIEFING

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM EAGLEBURGER

1. THE MIDDLE EAST CLEARLY WILL BE THE FOCUS OF YOUR MEETING ON THURSDAY MORNING WITH CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS BUT SOME DISCUSSION OF PENDING FOREIGN ASSISTANCE REQUESTS WOULD BE EXTREMELY HELPFUL. DAN PARKER IS ANXIOUS THAT YOU MENTION THE OVERALL AID PACKAGE, HOWEVER BRIEFLY, AND THAT YOU EMPHASIZE THE URGENCY FOR CONGRESSIONAL ACTION.

2. THE FOLLOWING ARE SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS, DRAWN LARGELY FROM PARKER'S DRAFT.

-- I RETURN FROM THE MIDDLE EAST MORE CONVINCED THAN EVER OF THE NEED FOR FAVORABLE AND URGENT ACTION ON THE PENDING FOREIGN ASSISTANCE LEGISLATION.

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-- I REGRET VERY MUCH THAT CIRCUMSTANCES HAVE CAUSED A

DELAY IN FORMULATING A SPECIFIC PROGRAM FOR THE MIDDLE EAST AND THAT HEARINGS ON THE OVERALL PROGRAM REPEATEDLY HAVE BEEN DELAYED.

-- I FULLY APPRECIATE THE DIFFICULTIES WHICH THESE DELAYS

HAVE OCCASIONED. I ALSO WISH TO THANK THE LEADERSHIP FOR THEIR UNDERSTANDING AND THEIR COOPERATION IN RE-SCHEDULING THE LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR SO THAT I MIGHT PERSONALLY APPEAR BEFORE THE COMMITTEES.

-- THE REGRETTED BUT UNAVOIDABLE DELAY IN NO WAY LESSENS THE VERY HIGH DEGREE OF URGENCY WHICH THE PRESIDENT AND I ATTACH TO YOUR FAVORABLE AND URGENT CONSIDERATION OF OUR REQUESTS. INDEED, I ASK THAT YOU REVIEW THIS PROGRAM WITH YOUR CUSTOMARY THOROUGHNESS BUT THAT YOU ALSO DO ALL WITHIN YOUR POWER TO EXPEDITE THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS.

-- FOR REASONS ALREADY NOTED, I VERY MUCH HOPE THAT FINAL PASSAGE OF THE WHOLE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT CAN BE ATTAINED BY THE END OF JULY. I PLEDGE THE HIGHEST ORDER OF COOPERATION IN WORKING OUT WITH YOU SUCH A LEGISLATIVE SCHEDULE.

-- IN THE INTERIM PERIOD FOLLOWING JUNE 30, I ALSO ASK YOUR SPECIAL UNDERSTANDING FOR A CONTINUING RESOLUTION WHICH WILL ALLOW CERTAIN FUNDS TO BE APPLIED TO OUR NEW NEEDS. A CONTINUATION ONLY OF THE SAME AUTHORITIES AND FUNDING WOULD SIMPLY NOT BE ADEQUATE IN OUR NEW POLICY-LINKED ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

-- NOT ONLY IN THE MIDDLE EAST, BUT ALSO IN INDOCHINA THERE IS AN URGENT AND CRITICAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AND THE PROSPECTS FOR PEACE. PEACE IN INDOCHINA DEPENDS AS MUCH UPON A STRONG, SELF-SUFFICIENT ECONOMY AS IT DOES ON AN EFFECTIVE SOUTH VIETNAMESE MILITARY DETERRENT. THE SOUTH IS DOING EVERYTHING HUMANLY POSSIBLE TO ESTABLISH ITS OWN ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE. SUBSTANTIAL FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, HOWEVER, WILL BE REQUIRED OVER THE SHORT TERM. SUCH
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ASSISTANCE IS NOT THROWING GOOD MONEY AFTER BAD. ON THE CONTRARY IT WILL SERVE ONLY TO CONSOLIDATE THE GAINS FOR LOCAL, REGIONAL AND GLOBAL STABILITY WHICH WE HAVE MADE IN RECENT YEARS, PARTLY AS A RESULT OF OUR POLICY IN INDOCHINA. ADEQUATE SHORT TERM ASSISTANCE TO THE SOUTH ALSO WILL BUTTRESS A CRITICAL ELEMENT IN MANY OF THE SENSITIVE NEGOTIATIONS WE ARE CONDUCTING -- THAT AMERICA WILL NOT PURSUE SOLUTIONS AT THE COST OF THE SECURITY OF

OLD FRIENDS.

-- TOGETHER WITH OTHER WITNESSES, I INTEND TO EMPHASIZE
THE IMPORTANCE OF THE MIDDLE EAST AND INDOCHINA TO
OUR OVERALL NATIONAL INTERESTS AND TO EXPLAIN HOW THE
INTEGRITY OF OUR GLOBAL STRATEGY CAN BE PROTECTED ONLY
THROUGH ADEQUATE FOREIGN AID LEVELS. BROWN

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